

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

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***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney  
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***For Immediate Release***

**NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY** - January 29, 2004

Carol C. Lam, United States Attorney for the Southern District of California, today announced that Attiquallah Sayed Ahmadi pled guilty in federal court in San Diego to the felony charges of being a felon in possession of firearms and of unlawful procurement of naturalization. Ahmadi, a former Afghanistan National and resident of San Diego, California, appeared yesterday before United States District Court Judge Jeffrey T. Miller and entered his guilty plea to the two-count superseding indictment. In connection with his plea, Ahmadi admitted that in January 2000, in the Imperial County, he knowingly possessed two semi-automatic weapons, a NORINCO Model SKS 7.62 millimeter semi-automatic rifle with attached bayonet and a NORINCO Model SKS 7.62 millimeter semi-automatic pistol. Ahmadi also admitted that at the time he possessed those firearms, he was prohibited from possessing any firearms due to a 1990 New York State felony conviction for criminal possession of a weapon in the third degree. Ahmadi is a former Afghanistan National who became a naturalized citizen of the United States in June 1996. As to the naturalization fraud charge, Ahmadi admitted that he knowingly misrepresented and concealed material facts in his application

for naturalization. Specifically, he admitted that he did not disclose that in 1995, he was convicted and sentenced for soliciting prostitution, a fact which made him statutorily ineligible for naturalization.

According to the terms of the plea, Ahmadi acknowledged that his conviction for naturalization fraud will result in the automatic revocation of the approval of his application for naturalization and the final order admitting him to United States citizenship and the cancellation of his certificate of naturalization. Ahmadi agreed not to oppose such an order by the District Court. Additionally, pursuant to the terms of the plea, Ahmadi agreed to appear before an Immigration Judge and stipulate to the entry of an order of removal from the United States and waive any right to appeal, reopen or challenge the removal.

Ahmadi is scheduled to appear before the Honorable Jeffrey T. Miller, United States District Court Judge, for a sentencing hearing at the United States Courthouse in San Diego, California, on April 12, 2004, at 9:00 a.m.

### **DEFENDANT**

Attiquallah Sayed Ahmadi

### **SUMMARY OF CHARGES**

Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1) - Felon in Possession of Firearms (Count 1)  
Penalties: Maximum ten years in prison, \$250,000 fine

Title 18, United States Code, Section 1425(a) - Unlawful Procurement of Naturalization (Count 2)  
Penalties: Maximum ten years in prison, \$250,000 fine

### **AGENCIES**

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms  
Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement